

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 250038

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, ABUD, EFIN, PL

SUBJECT: SFCP - US-POLISH S&T COOPERATION

REF: WARSAW 6517

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. WE SHARE THE CONCERNS YOU EXPRESSED IN REFTEL AND YOU MAY BE SURE THAT THEY WERE FORCEFULLY SET FORTH IN INTER-AGENCY DELIBERATIONS ON FIRM TREASURY POSITION THAT EXTENSION OF EXCESS CURRENCY DESIGNATION FOR POLAND BEYOND DECEMBER 1976 COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED.

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2. UNDERSTANDING NOW REACHED WILL, AS YOU HAVE NOTED,

PLACE SUBSTANTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND NEGOTIATING BURDEN ON THOSE IN USG AND GOP RESPONSIBLE FOR WORKING OUT JOINT PROGRAMS TO IMPLEMENT FULLY JOINT FUND AGREEMENT OF OCTOBER 8, 1974. UNDERSTANDING DOES, HOWEVER, HAVE BUILT-IN MEASURE OF FLEXIBILITY OUTLINED BELOW, WHICH WE BELIEVE WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO CARRY OUT OUR COMMITMENTS AND KEEP \$23 MILLION PROGRAM INTACT.

3. AS EMBASSY AWARE, EXCESS CURRENCY DESIGNATIONS UNDER SECTION 104 OF PL-480 ARE RESPONSIBILITY OF TREASURY DEPT, WHICH IS UNWILLING TO GO FURTHER FORMALLY THAN TO ALLOW FOR EACH SCIENCE AGENCY THREE MONTHS OBLIGATION OF FUNDS BEYOND THE DATE OF ENACTMENT OF ITS FY 77 APPROPRIATION. IT IS, HOWEVER, FURTHER UNDERSTOOD THAT A LIMITED ADDITIONAL EXTENSION COULD BE GRANTED IN CASE OF DEMONSTRATED NEED.

4. THESE POINTS ARE INCORPORATED IN THE NSC LETTER TO OMB WHICH READS, IN PART, AS FOLLOWS: THE TREASURY HAS STATED THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A DELAY IN THE PASSAGE OF THE FY 77 APPROPRIATIONS BEYOND OCTOBER 1976, IT WILL RECONSIDER THE TERMINAL DATE ON AN AGENCY BY AGENCY BASIS WHEN MAKING ITS FINAL DETERMINATION ON FY 77 EXCESS CURRENCIES IN SEPTEMBER 1976 IN ORDER TO PERMIT APPROXIMATELY THREE MONTHS FOR OBLIGATION OF FUNDS AFTER THE APPROVAL OF THE FY 77 APPROPRIATIONS... IF..EVENTS SHOULD OCCUR WHICH ARE BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE U.S. AND POLISH AGENCIES, TREASURY WOULD BE PREPARED TO EXTEND THE EXCESS CURRENCY DESIGNATION FOR A LIMITED PERIOD. END QUOTE.

5. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN MAXIMUM PRESSURE ON PARTICIPATING AGENCIES TO CONCLUDE PROGRAMMING AT EARLIEST FEASIBLE DATE FOLLOWING FY 77 APPROPRIATIONS, THE FURTHER UNDERSTANDING (LAST SENTENCE OF ABOVE PARA) IS NOT BEING CIRCULATED TO PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND STATE HAS UNDERTAKEN TO MAKE MAXIMUM EFFORT TO COMPLETE PROGRAMMING. WHILE THIS ARRANGEMENT IS NOT IDEAL FROM POINT OF VIEW OF MOST ORDERLY AND EFFECTIVE PROGRAMMING AND WILL REQUIRE SOME UNDERSTANDING FROM POLISH SIDE, WE BELIEVE THAT AGREED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION CAN BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL

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INTACT.

6. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY WISH TO OFFER ON BEST MANNER OF HANDLING THIS MATTER WITH POLISH GOVERNMENT AND PARTICIPATING POLISH AGENCIES.

7. TRAVEL FUNDS: UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE FUNDING OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL EXPENSES AFTER SEPTEMBER 1978 CONTINUES,

AND THE PERIOD AFTER DECEMBER 1976 IS NOW ALSO UNCERTAIN.
NO NEW US OBLIGATIONS FOR TRAVEL CAN BE MADE AFTER 1976;
HOWEVER, THE TRAVEL FUND WILL CONTINUE TO BE USED AFTER
THIS DATE FOR FUNDING PREVIOUSLY OBLIGATED. INGERSOLL

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